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## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING — 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any and all correspondence referenced herein, is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date below:

January 9, 2003

Date

*A Weiss*  
Aaron A. Weiss

January 9, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Patent Application No. 10/068,294 for "*Ring Apparatus Method, System, and Apparatus*" – George Robert Blakley  
(Our File No. 501143.000008)

**RECEIVED**

JAN 17 2003

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

The following are enclosed for filing in connection with this patent application:

1. Preliminary Amendment (9 pp.);
2. Appendix A – Specification & Claim Amendments (6 pp.)
3. Appendix B – Pending Claims (5 pp.); and
4. Postcard

Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard evidencing receipt of these materials

Applicant hereby requests that any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for its timely submission be treated as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time.

Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Thompson & Knight, LLP's Deposit Account No. 20-0821/501143.000008/AAW.

Respectfully submitted,

*A Weiss*

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Reg. No. 46,163

AAW:ks  
Encl.